Indicator

Dollars spent on mental health and substance abuse treatment services by state agencies, per resident.

WI	US	Best	Worst
$704	Not Available		

per resident

Year

Fiscal Year 2014/2015

Numerator
Dollars spent on mental health or substance use disorder treatment

Denominator
Number of residents

Description

This metric is the total state investment ($) in mental health (MH) and substance abuse (SA) treatment and services for children and adults as reported by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau. Expenditures include treatment services such as stays in psychiatric hospitals, mental health outpatient services, wraparound, and treatment foster care. This includes state dollars only, with no county funding.

Importance

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) tracks expenditures as a way to compare service spending across domains (e.g., inpatient, outpatient, community) and the impact that services have on overall population wellness (SAMHSA, 2013).

Limitations

This metric only includes state dollars, though much of the funding for children with complex mental health issues comes from county tax levies.

While the Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health has made efforts to identify the amounts and destination for the agency finances, there may be mis-tracked funds.

This metric includes funding for both children and adult programs.

Source

Financial information from the Informational Papers 24, 44, 47, 48, 49, 50, 56, 60, Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, 2015, accessed through the Office of Children's Mental Health Annual Report to the Legislature (2015). Population data from Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health, Population Module, https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/population/form.htm. SAMHSA. National Expenditures for Mental Health Services and Substance Abuse Treatment, 1986–2009. HHS Publication No. SMA-13-4740. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2013).